Atty. Dkt. No. 017227/0157

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Ian R. DOYLE et al

Tide:

A METHOD OF DIAGNOSIS

Appl. No.:

Unassigned

Filing Date:

March 6, 2000

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9-12, 14-18, 23-27, and 31-35, and amend the following claims.

Claim 1, line 1, insert after mammal --,--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 4" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 6" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 36, line 1, insert after samples --,--.